

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The obviousness-type double patenting rejections are moot in view of the Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. 6,355,358 filed herewith. However, Applicants wish to point out that several members of the patent family of U.S. 6,355,358 published before the filing date of the present application (December 21, 2001). They include EP 1065048, BR 2000002904, CZ 2000002436, DE 100005641, JP 2001071436, CN 1290601, KR 2001049644. An **Information Disclosure Statement** including the Search Result from DERWENT is attached herewith. Accordingly, Applicants are in the process of preparing a Certified English translation of the German priority document of the present case: DE 100 64 334.5, filed December 21, 2000, in order to perfect priority. Applicants will file the Certified English translation as soon as it becomes available.

The objection to Claim 35 is obviated by the amendment of Claim 35.

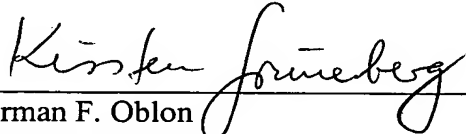
The rejection of Claims 1-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph are obviated by the amendment of these Claims.

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Amendment Dated: January 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: October 21, 2004

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Norman F. Oblon", written over a horizontal line.

Norman F. Oblon
Attorney of Record
Registration No.: 24,618

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
NFO:KAG:

Kirsten A. Grueneberg, Ph.D.
Registration No.: 47,297